



ACPA Newsletter

PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN CATHOLIC PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

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OUTCOME OF NOMINATIONS

Nomination ballots were sent to all ACPA members with the March issue of the NEWSLETTER. The chairman of the Committee on Elections reported that ballots were returned by 152 members and on a basis of the preferential count provided for in the Constitution the following persons were nominated for office and, in turn, indicated their willingness to accept the nomination. This year the Association is electing a President-Elect and one member of the Board of Directors. There are only two nominees for the office of President-Elect, owing to the fact that no one else was found among those nominated who wished to stand for office. The difficulty thus created has been partially met by providing for a write-in vote on the election ballot. The following are the nominees for the offices in question:

For President-Elect

Rev. Charles A. Curran
Rev. Joseph G. Keegan, S.J.

For Board of Directors

Dr. Walter J. Coville
Brother John M. Egan
Dr. James P. O'Connor

The Constitution provides that election ballots be mailed out two months prior to the date of the annual meeting. In keeping with this provision, election ballots were mailed to members of the Association on July 1st. This year, in keeping with the recent amendment to the Constitution, election ballots were sent for the first time to associate as well as to constituent members. The election poll closes August 1st, which means that a ballot must bear a postmark by that date at the latest in order to be counted. The outcome of the election will be announced at the annual meeting.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

The American Psychological Association is meeting this year in Chicago, Illinois, from Thursday, September 1st, through Wednesday, September 7th. The APA meeting will be held at two Chicago hotels: the Morrison and the Sherman. In keeping with its official policy as expressed in the Constitution, and as already announced in the May issue of the NEWSLETTER, the ACPA will hold its fourteenth annual meeting in Chicago during this time.

The forthcoming meeting, following the pattern of the last several years, will consist of two portions: (1) the separate ACPA meeting; and (2) a symposium jointly sponsored by the ACPA and one of the divisions of the APA. Accompanying this issue of the NEWSLETTER is a program of the meeting, which clearly reveals the two portions into which the meeting is divided and contains other details relative to the meeting.

Attention is directed to the following points relative to the meeting:

(1) Part I: Thursday, September 1st. This portion of the meeting constitutes the separate ACPA session. In order to reduce as far as possible the conflict with the APA sessions, the meeting is being held on the first day of the APA convention, when, it was felt, the scheduling might not be as full as on some subsequent days, and is being postponed until mid-afternoon. It will begin with a Symposium on "The

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Editor: Rev. William C. Bier, S.J.
Fordham University
New York 58, N. Y.

Assistant Editor:

Dr. Anthony J. Summo
Manhattan College
New York 71, N. Y.

Book Review Editor:

Dr. M. Irene Wightwick
College of New Rochelle
New Rochelle, N. Y.

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Miami Conference and its Implications" at 3:00 P.M., followed by the business meeting and concluding with a reception and buffet dinner. De Paul University is host to the ACPA meeting, which will be held at the Francis J. Lewis Center of the University, located at 25 East Jackson Blvd., on the corner of Jackson and Wabash. This location is within five blocks of the Morrison Hotel and seven or eight blocks from the Sherman Hotel. It is, therefore, easily and quickly accessible.

(2) Buffet dinner reservations. The business meeting will be followed by a social hour and a buffet dinner. Members are free to bring guests to both events, but it must be stressed that reservations for all those attending must be made beforehand. A price of \$4.00 has been set, which includes both the social hour and the dinner. Under this unit arrangement, no provision can be made to attend the social hour alone. NEWSLETTER subscribers as well as members are welcome at the meeting and the social events following. Reservations must be made by Monday, August 29th, and are made through Dr. LeRoy A. Wauck, Department of Psychology, De Paul University, 25 East Jackson Blvd., who is the Program Committee member in charge of local arrangements.

(3) Friday, September 2nd. A group of ACPA members interested in the testing of candidates for the Seminary and Religious life will meet informally in room 939 of the Francis J. Lewis Center of De Paul University beginning at 3:00 P.M. The purpose of this meeting is to provide for an interchange of information on current practice and techniques in this specialized type of psychological assessment. ACPA members interested in this field of work are welcome to attend and participate in the discussion.

(4) Part II: Saturday, September 3rd. This portion of the meeting consists of the Symposium, "Problems in the Teaching of Scientific Psychology in the Denominational College," jointly sponsored by the ACPA and Division 2 of the APA, Division on the Teaching of Psychology. This symposium will take place in the Morrison Hotel, and is scheduled from 9:00 to 10:50 A.M.

(5) Attendance at the APA Convention. It is the policy of our Association to hold its meeting at the time and place of the APA convention in order to offer our members a double justification for the expenditure of time and money involved in attending, and also to insure the Association against becoming an isolated or separate group, cut off from the main body of our colleagues in the field of psychology. Our members who come to Chicago are urged to attend at least a portion of the APA convention. No registration fee is charged for APA Fellows, Members, Associates, Affiliates, and Members of the Student Journal Group or Psi Chi. Those not included in the above-mentioned categories are welcome to attend the convention sessions upon payment of a guest registration fee of \$3.00. Registration facilities will be maintained at both the Morrison and Sherman Hotels during the convention. No registration fee will be charged for attendance at the ACPA sessions at De Paul University.

PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Assistant Professor. New Jersey University, to teach Educational Psychology and related courses. Ph.D. preferred. Salary: open. Assistant Professors. Two positions, one for Educational Psychology and Measurement and the other, for a doctoral clinical training program. University located in north central states area. Salary: \$6-\$7000. Market Research, Ph.D., no experience necessary, to head Market Research Department of New York City firm. Salary: \$7500.

Members of ACPA interested in these positions should forward a personal resumé to Dr. Paul Centi, Psychological Services, Fordham University, 302 Broadway, New York 7, New York. Prospective employers seeking the services of psychologists on a full or part-time basis are encouraged to write to Dr. Centi giving full particulars on the opportunities available.

ACPA MEMBERS IN PRINT

This column continues the listing of articles by ACPA members appearing in professional journals. Every effort is being made to provide as adequate a coverage as possible, but complete coverage can be achieved only if ACPA members send notification of articles as they are published. A simple postcard will serve very well, but be sure to provide information as to volume number and pages. Items for inclusion in this column should be addressed to: Dr. Alexander A. Schneiders, Fordham University, New York 58, N.Y.

- Angers, W. P. The psychological significance of Adlerian concepts in counseling. Vocat. guid. quart., 1960, 8, 139-143.
- Angers, W. P. The dangers of evaluative labeling. Sch. guid. Worker, 1960, 15, 1-4.
- Bieliauskas, V. J. (with Wolfe, H. E.). The attitude of industrial employers toward hiring of former State mental hospital patients. J. clin. Psychol., 1960, 16, 256-259.
- Bieliauskas, V. J. (with Heffron, Ann R.). Differences in performance on the chromatic vs. achromatic H-T-P drawings. J. clin. Psychol., 1960, 16, 334-335.
- Ferraro, C. D. (with Powell, M.). Sources of tension in married and single women teachers of different ages. J. educ. Psychol., 1960, 51, 92-101.
- Nordberg, R. B. Factors in response-choices of students of guidance. Cath. Counselor, 1960, 4, 65-69.
- Nordberg, R. B. The march to holism - where are we? Cath. Educ. Rev., 1960, 58, 240-247.
- Nordberg, R. B. Behavioral science revisited. Cath. Educ. Rev., 1960, 58, 313-322.
- O'Connor, J. P., Stafford, J. W. (with Lorr, M.). The psychotic reaction profile. J. clin. Psychol., 1960, 16, 241-245.
- Schaefer, E. S. (with Bell, R. Q., and Bayley, Nancy). Development of a maternal behavior research instrument. J. genet. Psychol., 1959, 95, 83-104.
- Schaefer, E. S. A circumplex model for maternal behavior. J. abnorm. soc. Psychol., 1959, 59, 226-235.
- Schneiders, A. A. Mental hygiene in the classroom. Cath. Counselor, 1960, 4, 96-103.
- Wysocki, B. A. A factorial study of Rorschach protocols. Percept. mot. Skills, 1960, 10, 105-106.

NEWS BRIEFS

ACTIVITIES OF ACPA MEMBERS: Dr. John I. Johnson of Marquette University has been awarded an NSF grant of \$5700 to study effect of tension on human learning, and has also received a USPHS Fellowship in neurophysiology at the University of Wisconsin, starting in September, 1960....Dr. Alexander A. Schneiders of Fordham University and Brother John M. Egan of Iona College participated in a workshop conducted during the week of June 19 at San Antonio, Texas, under the sponsorship of the National Family Life Conference....Vera D. Denty, of London, lectured on May 8th and 9th at the International Center for Studies in Religious Education, Brussels, Belgium, on "A Psychologist's Contribution to Religious Training"....Dr. John J. O'Hare read a paper on "Factor Analysis of Absolute Auditory Thresholds" at the meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, at Providence, R.I., on June 11th....During June, Dr. Raymond J. McCall of Marquette University delivered a series of three lectures on Personality Theory at the NDEA Counseling Institute....Brother Philip, O.S.F. of St. Francis College, Brooklyn, received the distinguished service award as "Outstanding Young Man of 1959" from the Young Men's Board of Trade at the annual awards dinner on May 11th. He was cited for his contributions to Community and State welfare and betterment, his participation in civic enterprises, his personal and educational progress, and his success in his own vocation...Dr. Roger T. Lennon of the World Book Company was the chairman of a panel discussion at the New York Psychological Association annual meeting on May 6th on "Ethical and Professional Considerations in the Reporting of Test Information"....Dr. Salvatore V. Didato delivered a series of winter lectures to the Newman Alumni Association of New York City which included the topics: "Crime and Juvenile Delinquency," "Psychology in Advertising and Business," and "Psychotherapy, Psychoanalysis and the Catholic Church"....Rev. William C. Bier, S.J. of Fordham University and Sister Marian Dolores, S.N.J.M. of Marylhurst College, Oregon, were the Directors of an Institute on Mental Health in Religious Life, held at St. Louis University, during the week of June 13th....Dr. J. John Vaccaro, Chief Psychologist of the Mental Hygiene and Guidance Clinic at the New York Foundling Hospital, was a member of the panel on "Motivating the Child Welfare Client for Psychiatric Assistance" at the Fifth Annual Child Care Workshop held at Manhattan

College on June 15th....Rev. James F. Moynihan, S.J. of Boston College addressed the Greater Boston Council of Directors of Guidance on the topic: "Current and Recurrent Issues in Guidance" during April of this year....Dr. Blair J. Kolasa of Duquesne University was awarded the Bachelor of Law Degree from Duquesne, making him one of the few people in the country to hold degrees in both Psychology and Law....Dr. Joseph G. Phelan of the Bechtel Corporation has received an award of \$1500 from the Western Institute Management Sciences for research on Decision Theory and Risk Taking Behavior.

NEW POSTS AND ADDITIONAL DUTIES FOR ACPA MEMBERS: Dr. Earl J. Kronenberger is leaving his post as clinical psychologist at the Dayton State Hospital to assume the position of Associate Professor of Psychology at St. Francis College, Fort Wayne, Indiana. He will also assume the Directorship of a Psychological Clinic which will be established to handle Community problems....Eileen M. Maxwell is leaving the Psychological Corporation for a position in the Personnel Department of the International Telephone and Telegraph Company....Raymond F. Levee has been appointed Assistant Professor of Philosophy in the Fordham School of Education....Dr. Miriam Crowley McCue has been appointed to the Program Committee and to the Professional Advisory Board of the Lexington, Massachusetts, Mental Health Association....Dr. Paul Centi of Fordham University has been appointed to a special committee of the New York Adult Education Council to study the problem of the poorly adjusted adult non-reader....Rev. Adrian van Kaam, C.S.Sp. of Duquesne University has been appointed as a psychological consultant to the National Board of Non-sectarian Religion in Education Foundation, which fosters research in the problem of religious education at the University and College level.

ACPA CHARTER FLIGHT: The projected ACPA charter flight to the International Congress of Psychology in Bonn, Germany, July 31 to August 6th, has materialized. Upwards of 60 persons are booked for the flight which is scheduled to leave New York International Airport on July 29th. The trip over will be by Sabena Jet to Brussels, whence busses will transport the group to Bonn. During the eight days of the Congress the group will be accommodated at Seigburg, which is very close to Bonn. After the Congress the members of the charter flight will go their separate ways in Europe, reassembling in Rome on August 25th. Return will be from Rome on August 29th by a BOAC plane. Father Walter J. Smith, of Catholic University, the chairman of the Charter Flight Committee, is attempting to arrange for a private audience with the Holy Father for "a group of representatives of the American Catholic Psychological Association." Father Smith will be back in Chicago in time for the annual ACPA meeting, and he has promised to provide an informal report on the charter flight at the business meeting.

BOOK REVIEW SECTION

Moore, Thomas Verner. **HEROIC SANCTITY AND INSANITY.** New York: Grune & Stratton, 1959.
Pp. x + 243. \$5.00.

Formerly Head of the Department of Psychology and Psychiatry (Catholic University, Washington) Father Moore, now a Carthusian, has written this book on the psychological aspects of sanctity, for the use of those psychiatrists who have some concern for mental health in a Christian setting.

In an excellent introduction, the author expresses regret that the study of relationship between religion and mental health practically always omits the consideration of religion in its highest form: that of sanctity. It is not religious deviations, nor even religious "ideas" which should be studied in this connection, the author maintains, but the heroic aspects of sanctity, proposed by God to every Christian.

Following methodically Benedict XV's treatise on Heroic Virtue, which deals with the Beatification and Canonization of Saints, Father Moore goes on to discuss the notion of heroicity, demonstrating its application to theological virtues, and its manifestation in the cardinal virtues and in the various Christian moral attitudes. St. Theresa (The Little Flower) serves as reference and model. Father Moore explains why, despite a tendency to tearfulness, accounted for as the reaction to heavy sorrows during her childhood, she was never a psycho-neurotic but, by the grace of God, she became a strong and vigorous personality.

We have here, therefore, a small treatise of

VIOLENCE AND CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY IN CONVULSIVE DISORDERS

PART II

Ralph S. Banay, M. D.
New York, N. Y.

Epilepsy has been variously attributed to congenital defects, prenatal injury, trauma, febrile thrombosis, neoplasms, degeneration and arterio-sclerosis. The seizure has been described as a literal physiological brainstorm with biochemical, endocrinological and genetic aspects, involving the mechanics of psychological processes. The fact that only some patients with head or brain injury develop convulsions has supported the assumption of an hereditary predisposition.

The Epileptic Pattern

Practitioners and clinicians have long recognized a fairly standard trend of personality patterns in epileptics in general. These are characterized by emotional immaturity, extreme conceit, hypersensitivity and restricted interests. MacCurdy has described the typical epileptic as being considerate without being kind, religious without zeal and inclined to work for praise but not for love. It is a pattern that, together with emotional instability, volatility and a likelihood of irresponsibility in crises, could be expected to produce a violent reaction in the event of stress.

Case History: Number 1

The existence of a considerable number of persons who are definitely epileptic but evade treatment is illustrated by the case of a young man who acknowledged frequent blackouts. The scion of a well-to-do family, he was well supplied with financial means to indulge his oscillating moods. While driving his car he would periodically pull up at the side of the road when he felt one of his minor seizures coming, and would proceed when it had passed. He wrecked a number of expensive cars in accidents attributable to this instability. Referred for therapy after one of his escapades, he belligerently refused to cooperate in treatment, considering this acknowledgment of his affliction an affront to his ego. Though warned of the seriousness of this condition and assured that it could be controlled, he flouted his family's efforts

to help him. Eventually, he became involved in a financial speculation explainable only by his irresponsible personality pattern and suffered legal consequences for it.

Case History: Number II

A case of what may be termed preventable murder involved another young man whose plainly pathological condition was aggravated by excessive drinking. He had been discharged from the army as epileptic and this finding had been confirmed in several psychiatric clinics. One evening he sat in a bar drinking and there lapsed into an amnesic interval. When his awareness returned he found himself in his car, parked in a lovers' lane. Beside him was the body of a girl with whom he had been friendly and beside her a blood-stained wrench with which she had been battered to death. In spite of the recorded evidence of his epileptic condition and the obvious deduction that alcohol had provoked his furor state, he was convicted of first-degree murder because no testimony could be adduced that he had been in a state of seizure when the murder was committed.

Case History: Number III

In another case a boy of 13, while playing with a girl of 7, tried to experiment sexually with her. When she screamed, he beat her on the head with a rock, killing her. His family assented to a plea of guilty to second-degree murder, and, in spite of his age and medical testimony that he was indisputably epileptic, he was sentenced to prison for thirty years to life. His history showed chronic enuresis and episodes of morbid preoccupation with killing animals and insects, as well as several instances of fugues when he was found as far distant as Florida and California without recollection of his wanderings. In prison he suffered two to three grand mal attacks weekly. It is now more than ten years since he was sentenced and at last report the prison physician still found it necessary to keep him under

anticonvulsant medication.

Case History: Number IV

My experience with organically determined violence in young people was highlighted in the case of a boy of 14 who murdered with exceptional brutality. Precociously husky and muscular, he was visiting an aunt, 23 years old, the mother of two children and pregnant, to watch television. When the young woman complained of feeling unwell and asked the boy to leave, he was overcome by a "sudden urge" as he rose to go. He struck her in the face and when she fell kicked her about the face and head. He struck her again with a soda bottle, brought a metal spray gun from the next room and struck her with that. He then beat her with a lamp, obtained a large knife from the kitchen and stabbed her in the neck. Still in furor, he wound a lamp cord around her neck and was dragging her to the kitchen, intent on stringing her body on a water pipe, when a knock on the door alarmed him and he fled through a window. This boy had a history of two serious head injuries and of blackouts attributable to them. His only previous offense had been car thefts, carried out in frivolous disregard of the likelihood of detection. He was clinically found to be epileptic as a consequence of brain injury. On at least one occasion while he was in a custodial institution he had an unprovoked outburst of characteristic furor in which he struck a wall violently with his fists.

Case History: Number V

Another case involved a young man accused of killing his mother. There had been an argument between them about the painting of a room. The son left the house and when he returned his mother was on a stepladder proceeding with the painting job. The argument was resumed and the young man claimed to have no clear recollection of what followed. But it appeared that the mother fell or was pushed from the ladder and was killed when her head struck a marble abutment. There were significant sequels. I was asked to examine the young man and to elude his recollection of the obscure episode. I injected a few grains of sodium amytal. As soon as the drug took effect he became violent and assaultive and was prevented from attacking me only by the presence of others who were able to restrain him. On another occasion while in custody he vented a sudden unprovoked burst of rage by striking a wall with such violence that he

left a hole in the plaster. Later he was committed to a state hospital and in a similar outburst there he struck a beam so violently that the lumber was displaced. Thus we had several demonstrations of the spontaneity with which such a person, subject to sudden outbursts, can erupt in violently aggressive episodes without warning or observable provocation.

Conclusions

Reflecting upon such cases as these, the frequency with which they occur and the varying medico-legal attitudes assumed in assessing them, one feels that it is time that we agree upon ways of evaluating them from the standpoint of prevention as well as juridical disposition. We have had enough experience in this field to determine the necessary precautions and procedures. It is not a problem for psychiatry alone; general practitioners and pediatricians need to be kept alert to the dangers that can accrue from a great variety of pathogenesis--prenatal trauma, feverish childhood diseases, injuries, encephalitis and all the other possibilities of brain deficiency or damage which might lead to convulsive syndrome and severe anti-social behavior. Where abnormal symptoms occur in behavior or in pathology, we would do well to exhaust every resource of diagnosis and therapy to forestall the serious consequences of liability to convulsive disorders. EGG examination should be routine where any such tendency is indicated, and even negative findings should not be regarded as conclusive.

The medico-legal problem presented in epilepsy is one that concerns primarily the patient's susceptibility to automatism in seizure, or the equivalent of seizure. Even when it can be shown that the perpetrator of a violent crime was acting without conscious volition, a court is unlikely to agree that the person is not legally responsible. Under the McNaghten Rule such defendants are not definably insane. It is a dilemma in which all of medical science must feel constrained to offer to the legal authorities every possible lead in the evolution of a workable, equitable formula.

Dr. Ralph Banay is the Director of Greenmount-on-Hudson and Youth Institute at Ossining, N. Y. He was formerly prison psychiatrist at Sing Sing and has written several books, among them Youth in despair, New York: Coward-McCann, 1948; and We call them criminals, New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1957.

Christian hagiography, based on the texts of Benedict XIVth and illustrated by means of biographies (especially those of St. Theresa and St. John of the Cross). The author occasionally gives his views on neurosis and psycho-neurosis, and provides a few descriptions of clinical cases. In Chapter XIII a striking case is presented of simultaneity between attacks of depression and alternations in the image the sick person has of God. As he proceeds, the author gives his views on the conditions necessary to obtain "sanctity at its therapeutic level" (p. 22). Finally, in a curious Appendix on the last page, he presents some statistics (Massachusetts - 1935), contends that "the insanity rates per 100,000 of Priests and Sisters in the United States in 1935 were distinctly lower than for the married in the general population," and concludes that "there are enough priests and nuns who rise to the therapeutic level of sanctity to lower their insanity rate" (p. 236).

We take the liberty of criticizing this book on three points: 1) The statistics given in the Appendix are not conclusive. The number of priests and nuns suffering from mental diseases should be compared with those of persons having approximately the same cultural and social status and living in environments as tolerant of mental difficulty as are religious institutes. This appendix is all the more regrettable in that Father Moore in his original publication in the American Ecclesiastical Review (1936), from which the data here quoted are drawn, interpreted them to mean that the religious milieu

as such was not a protection against mental diseases. His present inference - which I am afraid will be often quoted - nevertheless lacks the soundness of the previous one. 2) The role Father Moore attributes to grace in the cure and prophylaxis of mental disorder, seems to us exaggerated and not at all demonstrated. For instance, we can find no proof of the affirmation that "no knowledge or a very deficient knowledge of God and religion... is an active cause of mal-adjustment" (p. 137). On the other hand, we maintain that mental trouble is a serious obstacle to the perception of the religious message, and particularly to the supernatural call of God in its psychological purity. 3) Finally, we think that the concept of Christian sanctity based on Benedict XIVth's texts is very inadequate from the psychological and medical point of view. It is pertinent to mention in this connection the posthumous discourse in which Pius XII pointed out these deficiencies in view of the second centenary of the death of Benedict XIVth. (Osservatore Romano, April 9, 1959). The application of this concept to the daily life of Christians might create confusion between the criteria of canonization (heroic virtues as recognized from external signs of behavior), and the criteria of essential sanctity (union with God through the theological virtue of charity) which, by definition, escapes empirical observation and remains the secret of God, even in the case of the mentally disturbed.

LUMEN VITAE
Brussels, Belgium

Andre Godin, S.J.

Academy of Religion and Mental Health. RELIGION, SCIENCE AND MENTAL HEALTH: PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST ACADEMY SYMPOSIUM ON INTER-DISCIPLINE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MENTAL HEALTH -- A RELIGIOUS AND SCIENTIFIC CONCERN: 1957. New York: New York University Press, 1959. Pp. xvi + 107. \$3.00.

The importance of this little volume lies principally, not in its contents -- more or less worthwhile as these may be -- but rather in its being a public record of the event indicated on its title page. Certainly the ACPA will regard this event of 1957 as of some historic moment, for the concern given a promising early expression by the event falls within the concern animating and justifying the ACPA. And, as was fitting, two ACPA members -- the Rev. Noel Mailloux, O.P. and the Rev. William C. Bier, S.J. -- were on the editorial committee that prepared this book.

Already organized (by Protestant clergymen) in 1954 and now counting some three thousand members among individuals and institutions, the Acad-

emy of Religion and Mental Health bears effective witness, not only to the passage from mutual hostility or suspicion to "peaceful coexistence" between religion and science with regard to our number one health problem, but also to their movement towards active collaboration in a field they increasingly recognize as calling for their respective approaches, experiences, and skills.

The Academy has brought behavioral scientists as well as psychiatrists together with clergymen of different faiths for co-operation in the mental health area. Besides a round-the-year program of education and action (detailed in the Preface) already well under way, the Academy will hold annual national-level conferences wherein selected representatives

of the three professions just mentioned may meet in an informal atmosphere conducive of frank and spontaneous conversation.

The present book records the first such conference. With respect to the three principal sessions, it publishes the papers which initiated discussion and summarizes the discussions. On the first day, devoted to the approach of behavioral science to the inter-discipline concern with mental health, papers were read by the psychologists: O. Hobart Mowrer and Abraham Maslow. On the second day, leading discussion on the psychiatrists' approach were Doctors Gregory Zilboorg and Harold O. Wolff. Despite some pertinent discussion and a promising humane largeness of viewpoint expressed by the two psychologists particularly, little was said in the papers of the first two days adequately to relate religion and science regarding mental health. The coming to grips with this relation was achieved especially on the third day, when the viewpoints of the Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish faiths were put forward for discussion in the fine papers of the Rev. Hans Hofmann, the Rev. Noel Mailloux, O.P. (who best explored the dimensions of the subject

confronting this and later symposia), and Rabbi Albert A. Goldman, respectively.

It emerges from the book that what was mainly accomplished in the three-day dialogue was, on the one hand, a notable advance toward sympathy, mutual respect, and recognition of common interests (despite some persistent lack of communication and inevitable opposition of viewpoint), and, on the other hand, an outlining of subjects for future inter-discipline study. These included (and we would here note, as was occasionally remarked in the conference, the need of some philosophical agreement on human nature): differentiation of roles among the various disciplines contributing to mental health; values as they affect the scientist and the clergyman in their theoretical and practical work; religion and the scientific method; the individual and social function of religion in mental health; and (as subject for the 1958 symposium) religion in the developing personality. Upshot then: a start on fruitful, much-needed collaboration and articulate promise for its furtherance.

Mount St. Michael's Rev. Jerome Diemart, S. J.
Spokane, Washington

Dorsey, John M. and Seegers, Walter H. *LIVING CONSCIOUSLY*. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1959. Pp. x + 174. \$4.95.

Although this book is very short, I found it quite difficult to understand. Evaluating it from the standpoint of Catholic Moral Philosophy, I would like to say that it seems to me that the message of the authors is essentially the same as that of Pope Pius XII in his address to the Fifth International Congress of Psychotherapy and Clinical Psychology, April 13, 1953, when he said: "From certain psychological explanations, the thesis is formulated that the unconditioned extroversion of the ego constitutes the fundamental law of congenital altruism and of its dynamic tendencies. This is a logical, psychological and ethical error. There exists in fact a defense, an esteem, a love and a service of one's personal self, which is not only justified but demanded by psychology and morality.... Applied psychology would under-value this reality if it were to describe all consideration of the ego as psychic inhibition, error, return to a state of former development, under the pretext that it is contrary to the natural altruism of the psychic being."

I feel certain that this is the message of the authors; at least in part. It might well be they are

trying to say more than this. The reason that I remain in such doubt, is that they use such a peculiar language. In the preface they point out the awareness of this fact by saying: "We daringly decided to risk the reading public's disapproval by painstakingly writing this book unconventionally in the first person singular" (p. vii). I might add that they do this very thing with a vengeance. For example, they write: "I may persist in these delusions to the extent that it may never occur to me that my evidence of my sense is strictly self-grown self-evidence, and that this otherness illusion has real existence apart from me, is the all-revealing clue that my will to uphold this delusion derives all of its force from my fierce will to live. A man who defends his external data as being external is really only defending the existence of his own life. Therefore, the illusion of externality, which can be only repressed internality, is stoutly defended as an unrecognized kind of self-preservation" (p. 96).

Another reason why I think that the authors say more and indeed carry the point to an untenable extreme is the fact that they take the idea of correct

self-interest from the realm of relative value to the realm of absolute value, or at least they come dangerously close to this. They say: "The divinity of my self-identification in my ALL THAT IS can be observed in my treatment of my meanings for "worms," "dust," and "pearly gates." All is equally heavenly and earthly. Life is more than interrogation and apostrophe; it is positively my all. The ultimate in affirmation is adoration, worship. Whatever is is adorable is a restatement of god is all. Such is the self-perspective which represents my most life affirming point of view. I designate it is as "the divine Look," and it is

ever a self-estimate" (p. 34). "May I spare the deception of believing that I ever can do any thing wrong in my life. Whatever is, is adorable, and it is divine to be human: therefore may I ever maintain my divine look. So be it" (p. 136).

I seriously doubt that this book would add any philosophical light to the Christian and Philosophical outlook that we already have. Furthermore, it seems not to contribute new psychological insight.

St. Louis State
Hospital

Rev. Fintan McNamee, O.F.M.

Curtis, Jack H. SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1960. Pp. viii + 435. \$7.50.

This is a fair psychological presentation and it might be called scientific in the same sense in which the author uses the term scientific. Science is separate and distinct from philosophy, and although scientific psychology does not have an adequate tool for studying the whole person, still it does have a method for studying certain social aspects of the person (p. 147). The interacting aspects of people are the chief aspect under which they are considered by Professor Curtis. The author shows that he is conversant with the methodology of social science, and is particularly well versed in the history and philosophy of the knotty questions which arise in social psychology such as the one regarding values (Chap. 7).

Professor Curtis has not presented any strictly Catholic content, it would seem; however, he has built up and high-lighted a rather unique Catholic point of view in his chapter on Values and Postulates. He says, for instance, that his procedure as a Catholic scientific investigator, must be to "discover and remove postulates" in social science which are not true, and are not scientific, and place the scientific truth that remains in rightful focus. He says it will therefore be necessary to place science with the broader Catholic perspective on life, without however distorting it.

Chapters 1 - 7 trace very cleverly the history and philosophical foundations of Social Psychology, clarify the relations it has to its progenitors Sociology and Psychology as well as to its offspring Anthropology and Psychiatry; finally the author's position is clearly stated in Chapter 7.

In Part Two is to be found the meat of Social Psychology eclectically selected and clearly presented. The individual's processes, such as learning and adjustment are stressed. Exaggerated instinctual theory is not accepted nor is exaggerated environmentalism. Neat arrow-drawings and figures depict the author's middle-of-the-road position. One objection this reviewer finds is that the author places in such close relationship the notions of mentally ill deviates and criminally oriented deviates. Here especially Professor Curtis might have clarified his distinction between treating the whole man and treating only one aspect of a person, namely, his freedom and responsibility.

Part Three is a real contribution to the field because in it both the individual and the group are stressed; the "situation" is considered to be the bond between them. There is also an excellent section on small groups, and leadership functions here which would make very useful reading for our pastors.

Chapter 16 epitomizes and integrates the author's presentation. The topic outline at the end serves many useful purposes, such as facilitating a quick review of the whole text. The reviewer wishes the author had spent somewhat more time discussing psychological processes, such as learning, especially in connection with attitudes and their formation. One suggested improvement might be to clarify the notion, tenable in itself, but apt to mislead serious thinkers, namely, that the new-born human being has no personality. It seems desirable also to stress throughout the book the distinction so clearly brought out on page 190, between the process of acquiring intellectual as contrasted with emotional attitudes. Due caution must,

however, be had in order to safeguard BOTH the 'humanization' part in learning and the integration of the emotional (autonomic) with

the intellectual (central) processes.

Loyola University
Chicago, Illinois

Vincent V. Herr, S. J.

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